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July 21, 1999

Via Facsimile (212) [REDACTED]

Thomas M. Lahiff, Jr.
Vice President
Citibank, N.A.
Legal Affairs Office
425 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10043

Dear Mr. Lahiff:

I am writing regarding a telephone conversation you had with Committee Senior Counsel Tim Griffin yesterday regarding the subpoenaed bank records of Liu Chao Ying. It has been at least two months since the Committee approached Citibank and approximately one month since the Committee issued a subpoena regarding the wire transfer sent by Liu Chao Ying to Johnny Chung. Certainly you understand our keen interest in this information as it is related to attempts by the Chinese government to influence our presidential election. To date, your cooperation has been accompanied by what appears to be undue delays.

In your conversation with Mr. Griffin, you confirmed that you are pursuing the answers to the Committee's recent inquiries regarding the records of Liu Chao Ying. First, several numbers were listed on Citibank documentation of the August 14, 1996, wire transfer from Liu Chao Ying to Johnny Chung. These numbers include: [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. You are determining whether any of those numbers identifies an account held at Citibank, N.A., Hong Kong or any other Citibank related entity. Second, you are attempting to locate the documentation that should have been generated as a result of Liu Chao Ying's exchange of USD 300,000 for HKD 2,318,850 on or about August 14, 1996.

In your conversation, you also represented to Mr. Griffin that you are having difficulty acquiring answers to the Committee's inquiries due to two main obstacles: (1) the "twelve hour time differen[tial]" between New York, New York and Hong Kong which has forced you to call Hong Kong at 1:30 a.m.; and (2) the "language barrier." which has made communications difficult.

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Vice President, Legal Affairs Office
Citibank, N.A.
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I am confident that as a Vice President of an international bank with locations spanning the globe you and your company have developed efficient and effective ways of communicating across time zones. In the event that Citibank is not as sophisticated as I have been led to believe, e-mail would seem to be an available form of communication for a multi-national corporation. Furthermore, with regard to the "language barrier," I have a simple suggestion. Call the Citibank, N.A., Hong Kong, legal department. Mr. Griffin has spoken with individuals there. As I'm sure you are aware, they are fluent speakers of the English language. Whatever method you choose, it is evident to me that a number of employees in the Hong Kong office--from teller to counsel--should be able to determine the existence of the account in question.

In Mr. Griffin's initial conversations with Citibank employees, he provided a Citibank reference number obtained by the Committee from the Hong Kong Overseas Trust Bank, Ltd to assist in the identification and tracking of the wire transfer information. That same reference number was later included in the June 22, 1999, subpoena to Citibank. Repeatedly, Citibank personnel indicated that they were uncertain whether the reference number was a Citibank number and to what the number referred. On July 15, 1999, you produced part of the subpoenaed documentation of the Liu Chao Ying wire transfer. The reference number provided on the Citibank documentation identically matched the reference number provided to the Committee by the Hong Kong Overseas Trust Bank, Ltd. and subsequently to Citibank by the Committee. In light of this match, I am unclear as to the search capabilities of Citibank's record keeping system. Does Citibank have the capability to search for data on a wire transfer using a "TRN" reference number? If so, why was this documentation not provided sooner?

On July 13, 1999, you produced Customer Account Information Forms for several accounts held by the People's Bank of China: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. These forms appear to be incomplete. They do not include authorized signatures of signatories or contact and address information of the specificity one would expect. Is there additional contact information for these accounts that has yet to be located or is soon to be produced to the Committee?

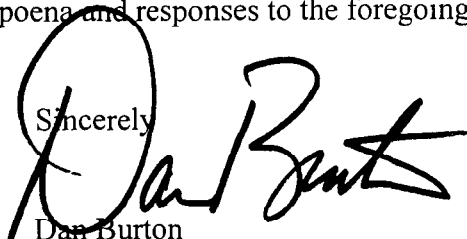
I am also interested in whether the United States Justice Department pursued the same information regarding Liu Chao Ying. Did the Justice Department and/or any other department or agency of the United States request or subpoena information regarding the wire transfer to Johnny Chung? If so, when was the request made or the subpoena served? When and how did you respond to that request or subpoena?

Finally, I would like to comment on the delays and seeming lack of compliance by Citibank in this matter. My staff has reviewed the GAO Report entitled "Raul Salinas,

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Vice President, Legal Affairs Office
Citibank, N.A.
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Citibank, and Alleged Money Laundering” and the Comptroller of the Currency’s Memorandum regarding their unsuccessful attempt to obtain Know Your Customer (KYC) information from Citibank. While I recognize your interest in protecting the privacy of your customers, clearly concerns have been previously raised regarding the cooperation of Citibank with duly authorized investigations. The information sought by this Committee was done so pursuant to a lawful subpoena, a subpoena with a due date of July 6, 1999. I would appreciate a more diligent and timely response. Let me assure you, the Committee is prepared to take appropriate action to ensure compliance with the Committee’s subpoena, including subpoenaing the individuals responsible for any delay.

For your convenience, I have attached copies of the wire transfer documentation produced to the Committee by you and the Hong Kong Overseas Trust Bank, Ltd. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please feel free to contact Senior Counsel Tim Griffin at (202) 225-5074 if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to your full compliance with the Committee’s subpoena and responses to the foregoing questions by Wednesday, July 28, 1999.


Sincerely

Dan Burton
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Henry Waxman (w/ enclosures)
Sanford I. Weill (w/ enclosures)

96/08/14

ITT96/861129

CHUNG JOHNNY
C/O AUTOMATED INTELLIGENT
SYSTEMS INC
2771 PLAZA DEL AMO
SUITE 809
Torrance CA 90503 310 3288

REMITTING BANK : CITIBANK NA
THEIR REF. : 
REMITTING AMOUNT : HKD*****2,318,850.00
EXCHANGE RATE : _____
EQUIVALENT AMOUNT : _____
ORDERING CUSTOMER : LIU CHAO YING

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
for OVERSEAS TRUST BANK LTD.
GLOUCESTER RD. BRANCH


Authorized Signature *Barz*

19 NOV 1997

THIS IS A REQUESTED COPY